

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in reply to the Final Office Action dated May 4, 2005, within the three month period for response. A Notice of Appeal is being concurrently herewith, and as such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the above amendments to place the case in better condition for Appeal. Authorization to charge Deposit Account 23-3000 the sum of \$500.00 for the requisite fee for the Notice of Appeal is granted therein.

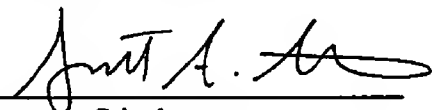
In this paper, Applicants have canceled claims 1-6, 8-13, 23-27, 29-33 and 38-39 without prejudice, leaving claims 14-22, 34-37 and 40 pending for the purposes of the appeal. It is not Applicants' intent to forego the subject matter of the canceled claims; however, as Applicants intend to file a continuation application to continue prosecution of the canceled claims. Therefore, Applicants have not foregone any subject matter nor limited the scope of permissible equivalence by virtue of this amendment.

Applicants respectfully request that the aforementioned amendments be entered by the Examiner after final pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.116, as the amendments merely place the application in better condition for appeal, and as the amendments do not raise any new issues.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, or which might otherwise further this case onto allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at 513-241-2324. Moreover, if any other charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

4 AUG 2005
Date


Scott A. Stinebruner
Reg. No. 38,323
WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.
2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Telephone: (513) 241-2324
Facsimile: (513) 241-6234

Page 5 of 5
Serial No. 09/997,990
Amendment After Final dated August 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2005
IBM Docket ROC920010095US1
WHL&E IBM/193
K:\ibm\193\Amendment After Final re 5-4-05 OA.wpd